

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06056 280828Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /121 W

----- 080302

R 280650 ZUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 239

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6056

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN BG

SUBJECT: INDO-PAK TALKS

REF: ISLAMABAD 5990

1. PRESIDENT BHUTTO, FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO ISLAMABAD MORNING JULY 27 FROM TRIP ABROAD, HELD 75-MINUTE MEETING WITH INDIAN DELEGATION LEADER HAKSAR SAME EVENING. KEWAL SINGH AND P.N. DHAR ALSO PRESENT ON INDIAN SIDE, AS WERE AZIZ AHMED AND FONSEC AGHA SHAHI ON PAK SIDE. QUERIED BY PRESS AFTER MEETING, HAKSAR DECLINED COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE BUT SAID IT WAS "A GOOD MEETING."

2. FURTHER MEETING BETWEEN INDIAN AND PAK DELEGATIONS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 28. CURRENT PRESS SPECULATION IS THAT TALKS MAY CONTINUE THROUGH JULY 29 OR EVEN

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JULY 30.

3. COCKTAIL PARTY CIRCUIT AGOG EVENING JULY 27 WITH RUMOR THAT BANGLADESH DELEGATION HAD SECRETLY ARRIVED IN ISLAMABAD THAT DAY. RUMOR FLATLY DENIED BY SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL BUT PERSISTS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE RESPONSIBLE OBSERVERS HERE STILL DO NOT EXPECT ANY SORT OF DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH AS RESULT OF TALKS, FACT THAT THEY HAVE GONE ON LONGER THAN ANTICIPATED PLUS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT PRESIDENT BHUTTO AT JULY 27 MEETING HAVE GIVEN RISE TO FEELING OF OPTIMISM THAT AT LEAST MODEST PROGRESS TOWARD RESOLUTION OUTSTANDING ISSUES MAY YET EMERGE FROM NEGOTIATIONS.
SANDERHOFF

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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30 JUN 2005

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